

CT- 1257

WALLVILLE SCHOOL (OLD AFRICAN AMERICAN)

(c. 1880)

Wallville

Private

Available evidence indicates that this is the oldest extant African American school in Calvert County. Community residents plan to restore the building.

This wood-framed, board and batten building is among the small schoolhouses in the county. It is one bay wide and two bays deep and fenestrated with six over six, double hung windows.

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE STATE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Wallville School (Old African American) (CT-V) 1257

a) Historical Period Theme: Social/Education/Cultural

b) Geographic Organization: Western Shore

c) Chronological/Developmental Period:

Industrial/Urban Dominance, A.D. 1870-1930

d) Resource Type:

Category: building

Historic Environment: rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): school

Known Design Source: none

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. CT- 1257

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name

historic Wallville School (Old African American)

and/or common

2. Location

street & number in front of 2575 Lloyd Bowen Road

☐ not for publication

city, town St. Leonard

☒ vicinity of

congressional district

state Maryland

county Calvert

3. Classification

Category

☐ district

☒ building(s)

☐ structure

☐ site

☐ object

Ownership

☐ public

☒ private

☐ both

Public Acquisition

☐ in process

☒ being considered

☐ not applicable

Status

☐ occupied

☒ unoccupied

☐ work in progress

Accessible

☒ yes: restricted

☐ yes: unrestricted

☐ no

Present Use

☐ agriculture

☐ commercial

☐ educational

☐ entertainment

☐ government

☐ industrial

☐ military

☐ museum

☐ park

☐ private residence

☐ religious

☐ scientific

☐ transportation

☒ other: vacant

4. Owner of Property

name Carolyn D. & Pennard D. Parker

street & number 2575 Lloyd Bowen Road

telephone no.: 410-586-8950

city, town St. Leonard

state and zip code MD 20685

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Circuit Court Clerk's Office

liber ABE 801

street & number 175 Main Street

folio 538

city, town Prince Frederick

state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date

☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. CT- 1257

Condition

☐ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☒ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☒ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

☐ original site
☒ moved date of move 1930s

The Old African American Wallville School is situated in the front yard of 2575 Lloyd Bowen Road. A post-World War II raised ranch house is located at the rear of the lot. Its site is a flat, largely open lot on the northwest side of Lloyd Bowen Road in the southern part of Calvert County.

The building itself is a wood-framed, single-story, gable-roofed block, rectangular in plan and smaller than most other surviving one room schoolhouses in Calvert County. The principal facade, which faces southeast, is pierced by a central door opening, presently missing a door. Side walls are pierced by two windows, while the rear wall is pierced by a central window. These windows appear to have originally been six over six, double hung in configuration, although some have been replaced by one over one sashes. The front wall of the building is sheathed in clapboards, as is the rear gable peak, while the remaining walls are sheathed in board and batten. The roof junction has exposed rafter tails, while the roof is sheathed in tar paper.

The building is in poor condition. Stabilization and restoration is needed to preserve it.

8. Significance

Survey No. CT- 1257

Period	Areas of Significance--Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistory	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates	Builder/Architect
check: Applicable Criteria: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	
and/or	
Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local	

Although the building has not been precisely dated, it may be the oldest extant African American one-room schoolhouse in Calvert County. Local residents have begun a campaign to preserve the building and restore it to depict its historic significance in nineteenth and twentieth century Calvert County education.

Retired schoolteacher Elizabeth Gross recalled that this was the original school in Wallville and was moved when the second African American school in Wallville was moved there from St. Leonard. She noted that the school is "as old as Methuselah - but it's still there" (Goddard 1995). The school is illustrated in Richlyn Goddard's history of African American education in Calvert County.

Available information indicates that this school was used to educate African American students from sometime in the nineteenth century until the 1930s. Long-time Wallville resident Edith Gray attended school in the 1910s and remembered that long benches lined the walls of the building, and a pot-bellied stove provided heat. The last principal of the school was Regina Brown who served from 1931 to 1935.

Miss Brown described the school in a bicentennial publication of the Calvert County Retired Teachers Association:

This was a segregated school of thirty-five black pupils in grades one through seven. I was principal, teacher, secretary, custodian, and trouble-shooter.

The room was about fifteen by fifteen feet with space for only a dozen double desks for pupils. The smaller children sat three in a desk. On days of good attendance the overflow sat on the floor in the aisle and used flat-topped logs for desk tops. Our supplies consisted of textbooks, a register, one box of white chalk, a water pail and dipper, and one corn broom. The customary airtight stove was the only source of heat (CRTA 1975).

In the 1930s, the school was replaced by a larger, more substantial school, also surveyed. This latter school is presently the David S. and Mary E. Washington House at 2490 Lloyd Bowen Road.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CT- 1257

Goddard, Richlyn. *Persistence, Perseverance & Progress: History of African American Schools in Calvert County, Maryland, 1865-1985* (1998).

Calvert Retired Teachers Assn. "Fifty Years of Education in Calvert County" (1975).

McIntire, Richard. "Group Plans to Save the Wallville School." *Calvert Independent* (1998).

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name Broomes Island

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

That portion of parcel 34-135 that is occupied by the school building. This is the portion of the parcel that embodies its historic significance.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Douglas C. McVarish, Project Architectural Historian

organization John Milner Associates, Inc.

date May 1998

street & number 1216 Arch Street, 5th Floor

telephone 215-561-7637

city or town Philadelphia

state PA

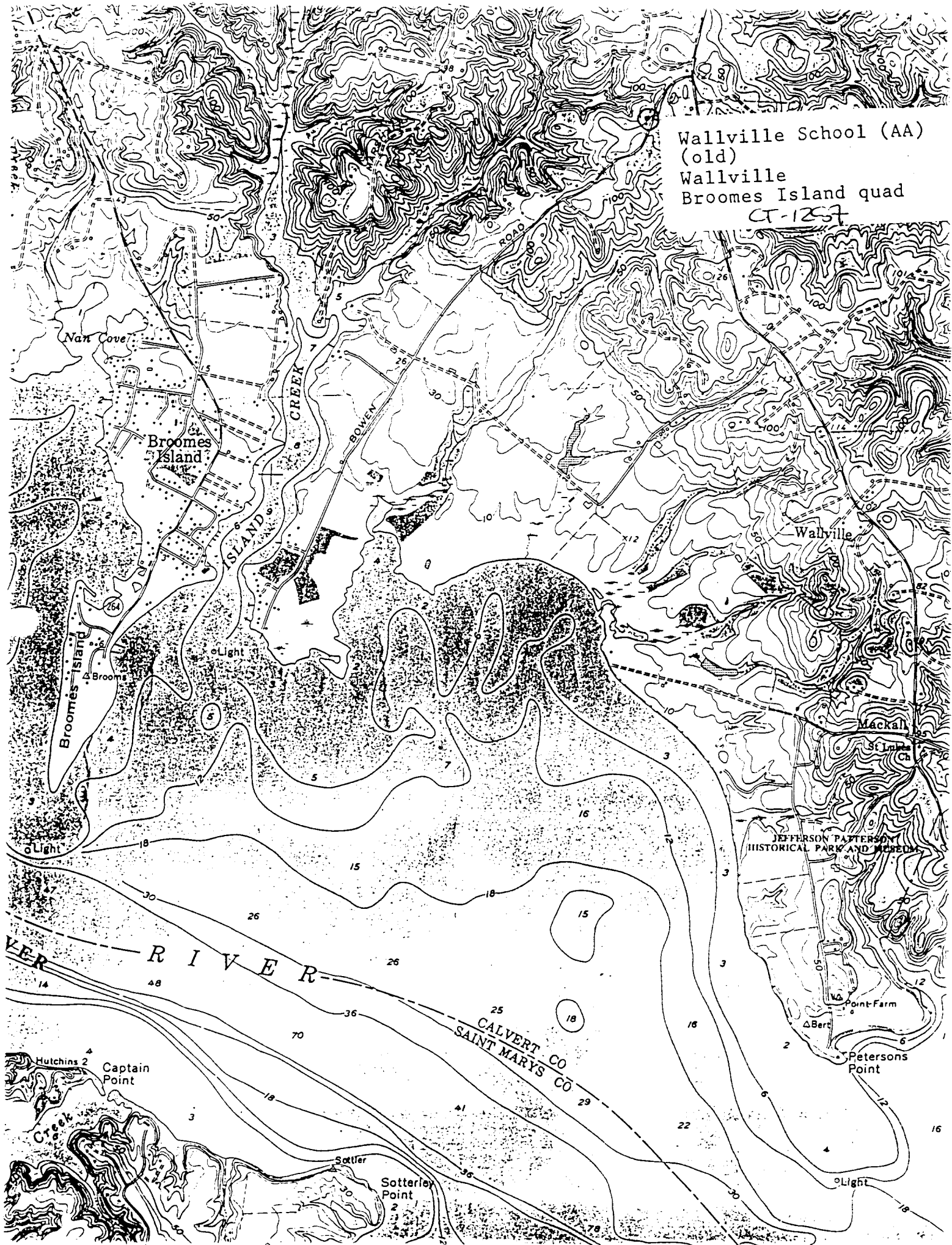
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032
(301-514-7600)

Wallville School (AA)
(old)
Wallville
Broomes Island quad
CT-1257





1257

Whiting Creek (N. 60° E.)

Collected by

James H. Henshaw

1888

1888

1888

12



1257

Vol. 2115 School No. 1

Calif. Nat. Hist.

Darius F. C. C. C.

1922-1923

1923-1924

1924-1925

1925-1926